STATEMENT UNDER 3 FR 1.97(e) ACCOMPANYING Docket No: P-4154P1 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE, STATEMENT In Re Application Of: DAW ET AL. SEP 2 2 2003 Filing Date Group Art Unit Serial No. Examiner 09/823,199 1641 3/30/01 A. Y. LAM Invention: VARIABLE EXTENSION COMBINED SPINAL/EPIDURAL NEEDLE SET AND METHOD FOR ITS USE TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS: This is a statement under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(e) in the above-identified application. Check applicable statement herebelow: Statement Under 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1) ☑ Each item of information contained in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement. Statement Under 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2) No item of information contained in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned person, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement. Dated: September 19, 2003 Jamés J. Murtha, Reg. No. 35,769 Certificate of Mailing by First Class Mail **Becton Dickinson and Company** I certify that this document is being deposited on 1 Becton Drive with the U.S. Postal Service as first Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417-1880 class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the 201-847-7160 Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA

22313/1450.

Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence

Kathleen Monesteri

Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence

CC:

ATTY DOCKET NO. P-4154P1 SERIAL NO. 09/823,199 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATION DAW ET AL. (Use several sheets if necessary) FILING GROUP 1641 . 3/30/01 **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS** FILING DATE *EXAMINER DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE NAME CLASS SUBCLASS IF APPROPRIATE **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS** TRANSLATION COUNTRY CLASS SUBCLASS DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE YES NO OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) **International Preliminary Examination Report EXAMINER DATE CONSIDERED**

Form PTO-A820 (also form PTO-1449)

considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

P09C/REV03

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not

Patent and Trademark Office * U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE